ABSTRACT

A nerve regeneration which comprises a compound is represented by formula (I):

$$R^{4} \stackrel{R^{2}}{\longrightarrow} R^{3} \qquad (I)$$

(wherein all symbols are shown in the description), a salt thereof or a prodrug thereof. The compound of the present invention is suppresses nerve cell death as a substance for accelerating growth and/or differentiation of stem cells (nerve stem cells, embryonic stem cells, bone marrow cells, etc.), a substance for accelerating growth and/or differentiation of nerve precursor cells, a potentiator for neurotrophic factor activity, a neurotrophic factor-like substance or a neurodegenerative suppressor, and accelerates repair and regeneration of nerve tissues by neogenesis, regeneration and/or axon evolution. In addition, the compound of the present invention is useful for preparation from brain tissues, bone marrow and/or embryonic stem cells of cells for transplant (nerve stem cells, nerve precursor cells, nerve cells, etc.) and also accelerates grafting, growth, differentiation and/or function expression of cells for transplant whereupon it is useful for prevention and/or treatment of neurodegenerative diseases.